GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1945
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2004
EXPANSION OF AGRARIAN LAND
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the agrarian land at present in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government is chalking out a plan for the expansion of agrarian land;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the status of barren land at present in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) to (d): Agricultural Land/cultivable land encompasses the net area sown, current fallows, fallow lands other than current fallows, cultivable waste and land under miscellaneous tree crops. As per available estimates, an area of 183.12 million ha. is agricultural land and 19.26 million ha. is barren land. The State-wise details are annexed.

Government of India are implementing various Watershed Development Programmes for development of degraded lands. An area of 29.19 million ha. has been treated/developed by end of ninth plan, with an expenditure of Rs.10149.73 crore.

Working Group on Watershed Development, Rainfed Farming and Natural Resource Management for X Five Year Plan constituted by Planning Commission has suggested a perspective plan for development of 88.5 million ha. of degraded lands through various Watershed Development Programmes in 20 years with an estimated cost of Rs.72750.00 crore. These programme help in sustaining agricultural production besides nominal increase in cultivable land.

ANNEXURE

STATE-WISE DETAILS OF AGRICULTURE AND BARREN LAND IN THE COUNTRY DURING THE YEAR 2000-2001

(Area in thousand hectare)

S.No.	Name of the States	Agriculture/cultivable land	Barren land
1	Andhra Pradesh	15841	2100
2	Arunachal Pradesh	314	21
3	Assam	3224	1461
4	Bihar	10836	1010
5	Chhatisgarh	5609	344
6	Goa	197	-
7	Gujarat	12353	2604
8	Haryana	3784	102
9	Himachal Pradesh	804	807
10	Jammu & Kashmir	1050	291
11	Jharkhand	-#	-#
12	Karnataka	12916	794
13	Kerala	2392	29
14	Madya Pradesh	17279	1349
15	Maharashtra	21125	1696
16	Manipur	164	1419
17	Meghalaya	1053	136
18	Mizoram	444	16
19	Nagaland	660	-
20	Orissa	7473	843
21	Punjab	4341	55
22	Rajasthan	25646	2566
23	Sikkim	114	173

24	Tamil Nadu	8272	476
25	Tripura	310	3
26	Uttar Pradesh	20821	920
27	Uttaranchal	-#	-#
28	West Bengal	5898	27
29	A & N Island	70	2
30	Chandigarh	3	(1)
31	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	24	(a)
32	Daman & Diu	7	2
33	Delhi	57	13
34	Lakshadweep	3	-
35	Pondicherry	33	0
	Total	183117	19259

-# Area of Jharkhand included in Bihar and Uttranchal area included in Uttar Pradesh

(1) includes under the head `Area put to non-agricultural uses`.

(a) Below 500 hectares.